FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 24, 2007

Contact: Will Wolper
wwolper@iowaconference.com
319-366-4845

IOWA CONFERENCE MEN'S TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP PREVIEW

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA . . . The 2007 Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (IIAC) men's tennis Championship is April 26-28, in Cedar Rapids. Wartburg College is the host of the 2007 Championship that will be played at Veterans Memorial Park at 8th Avenue and Rockford Road SW and at the Clark Racquet Center on the campus of Coe College.

The three-day event will feature a six-team Dual Team Tournament on Thursday, a three-flight singles Tournament and a two-flight doubles Tournament on Friday and Saturday.

Team Championship: The six-team Dual Tournament, which was seeded by a vote of the Conference tennis coaches conducted following the conclusion of the regular season, begins at 8:30 a.m. The winner of the Team Tournament will receive the Conference's automatic bid to the NCAA Championship which begins on May 4.

Luther College is the Tournament's top seed, ending the reign of six-time defending Conference Champion Coe College, who is the #2-seed. Luther enters the Team Tournament with a 26-6 overall record and an 8-0 mark against Conference opponents, including a win over Coe to snap the Kohawks 46-match winning streak over Conference opponents. Coe enters the Tournament with a 10-12 overall record, 2-1 in the IIAC.

For the fifth time in the last six years, Central College is the third seed with a 12-8 record, 6-2 in the IIAC. Wartburg College (5-10, 2-3), Loras College (6-7, 4-4) and Simpson College (6-8. 4-4) are seeds 4-6.

The dual matches will conclude once a team wins five points and are played out to determine place finishes one through six. First round and back draw matches will play singles first, semifinal and Championship matches will play doubles first. All matches with the exception of the fifth-place match will be played at Veterans Park. The fifth-place match will be played at Coe. Should the Team Tournament not be completed on Thursday, it will be completed prior to the start of the Individual Tournament on Friday.

Last year, Coe won its sixth straight Conference title with a 4-1 win over Luther in the Championship match, the fourth time in five years the two teams met in the final match. Central finished third after posting a 4-0 win over Wartburg. Cornell, the sixth-seed, upset 5th-seeded Simpson (4-2) to take the fifth-place match.

Individual Flighted Tournament: Individuals are placed in flights based on the players' strength. The draw for the singles and doubles Tournament will be available Thursday afternoon and posted on the Iowa Conference web site at that time.

The Individual Flighted Tournament begins at 8:30 a.m. on Friday and 9:00 a.m. on Saturday. Brackets will be completed through the quarterfinals on Friday with Flight A matches at Coe, and Flight B and C matches at Veterans. All of Saturday's matches will be at Coe.

Quarterfinalists in Flight A singles and semifinalists in Flight A doubles are deemed All-Conference.
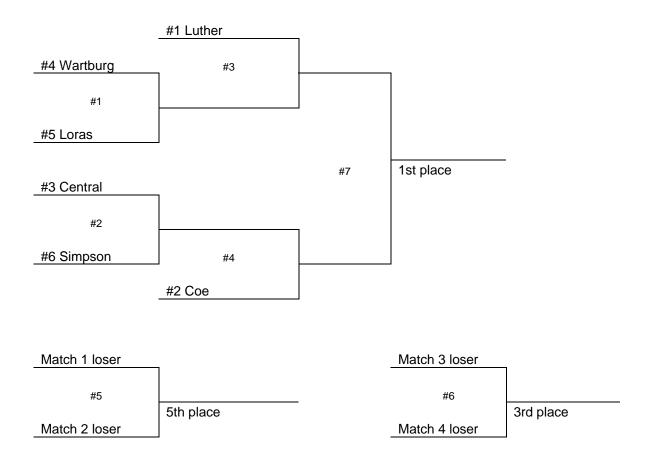
Last year, **Christian Klein** became the first Luther player to win the A Flight singles title since Chris Rovn in 1995 and the first player from a school other than Coe to win the top singles title since Central's Spencer Cox in

1998. Four of last year's eight All-Conference performers return this year, all wearing a Coe uniform – **Ryan Yao**, the 2005 Champion and 2006 runner-up at Flight A singles, **Joey Lankelma**, **T.J. Leicht** and **Tom Jennings**, who transferred to Coe from Cornell.

Luther's **Nate Jung** won the Flight B title and Central's **Lance Allgood** was the Champion of Flight C. Coe swept the doubles titles with Yao and **Jake Michael** winning Flight A, and **Benji Gault** and **Aaron Niederhiser** winning Flight B.

The Dual Team Tournament bracket follows. Complete results from previous Iowa Conference men's tennis Championships can be found at: http://www.iowaconference.com/men/tennis/tournaments.htm

2007 IIAC Men's Tennis Team Tournament Bracket

#1 Luther

#4 Wartburg   #3

#1

#5 Loras

#3 Central   #7   1st place

#2

#6 Simpson   #4

#2 Coe

Match 1 loser   Match 3 loser

#5   #6

5th place   3rd place

Match 2 loser   Match 4 loser

~ ~ www.iowaconference.com ~ ~